Community Budget Questions Summary April 1-17, 2020

Summary
Each year, staff tracks comments on the City's budget. The City Manager's Trial Budget was scheduled to be presented to the City Council on March 17, 2020, with budget hearings scheduled to begin April 2, 2020. However, due to current restrictions on public gatherings, the city unfortunately had to cancel normal and customary community budget hearings and the Trial Budget is being revised due to the economic downturn.

Based on the revised budget adoption schedule discussed at the March 26, 2020 City Council Policy Session, staff returned with additional information on April 2 and April 6 to walk the City Council through four different budget scenarios modeling the impact of COVID-19 on our General Fund revenues. On April 13, staff presented the 2020-21 Revised Trial Budget, focusing on the city's proposed response efforts to the current economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 public health crisis. We very much value the feedback and community engagement received in our community budget hearings. Unfortunately, this year it will be necessary to use a different format and a compressed schedule to accomplish this goal. Once those decisions have been made we will update the calendar on the website. As always residents can continue to provide feedback by calling 602-262-4800 or email us at budget.research@phoenix.gov. Additionally, Budget and Research continues to promote the FundPHX interactive budget tool, available at phoenix.gov/FundPHX.

Attachment A transmits a summary of the electronic and voice mail comments regarding the budget for April 1-17, 2020.

Responsible Department
This item is submitted by City Manager Ed Zuercher and the Budget and Research Department.
To: Ed Zuercher  
City Manager  

From: Jeff Barton  
Deputy City Manager  

Date: April 17, 2020  

Subject: BUDGET QUESTIONS SUMMARY APRIL 1-17, 2020

This report transmits a summary of the electronic and voice mail comments regarding the budget from April 1-17, 2020.

Residents can access additional information at phoenix.gov/Budget.
1. Patricia Shields sent an email to express support for street repairs.

2. Susie Rego sent an email to express support for street repairs.

3. Omar Peter sent an email to express support for demonstration projects for all ages, abilities and families and to create safe and accessible streets and bike ways for everyone.

4. Melanie Esterman sent an email to express support for demonstration projects for all ages, abilities and families and to create safe and accessible streets and bike ways for everyone.

5. Jack Folkerth sent an email to express support for the creation and maintenance of bicycle lanes.

6. Charles Fife sent an email to express support for creating revenue through the enforcement of red light running and speeding.

7. Mark Stodola sent an email to express support for funding services for those impacted by special needs; specifically, funding Daring Adventure’s inclusive and adaptive recreation program so that it’s services can continue for city of Phoenix residents.

8. Jacob Harvey sent an email to express support for funding direct financial assistance for workers and small businesses, improvement of pedestrian pathways and bike lanes, maintaining and expanding public transit, eliminating taxpayer-funded subsidies for major corporations and developers, reducing the policing of private businesses, not turning off water for those who cannot pay their bills and affordable housing.

9. Mamie Coffey sent an email to express support for funding services for those with special needs; specifically, funding Daring Adventure’s inclusive and adaptive recreation program so that it’s services can continue for city of Phoenix residents.

10. AJ and Cathy (no last name given) sent an email recommending that the city not raise taxes, use fines or fees to balance the budget, sell some of its assets and end the light rail.

11. Michelle and David Campuzano sent an email to express appreciation for embracing inclusion and request that the city find continued ways to include individuals with disabilities.
12. David Bell sent an email to express support for more alley maintenance, police patrols, trees on the streets and better library services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Khala Stanfield
Management Assistant II